GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1839
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2016
Doctor People Ratio
Simha Shri Prathap

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the availability of doctors/ medical practitioners in the country is less than neighbouring countries, if so, the reaction of the Government thereto along with steps taken to improve the doctor people ratio in the country;

(b) the total medical colleges in the country along with estimated requirement of MBBS/BDS seat;

(c) whether a profit making firm/ business house is allowed entry in the field of medical education as per existing law, if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to allow commercial ventures in the field of medical education and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government is considering to relax the existing teacher/ student ratio to enable private colleges to admit more students to meet the doctor people ratio and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a): As per information provided by Medical Council of India, there are a total 9,88,922 allopathic doctors registered with the State Medical Council/Medical Council of India as on 30th June, 2016. Assuming 80% availability, it is estimated that around 7.91 lakh doctors may be actually available for active service. It gives a doctor-population ratio of 1:1668 as per current population estimate of 1.32 billion. The Government has taken various steps to increase the number of doctors. These efforts include-
(i) DNB qualification has been recognized for appointment as faculty to take care of shortage of faculty.
(ii) Enhancement of maximum intake capacity at MBBS level from 150 to 250.
(iii) Enhancement of age limit for appointment/ extension/ re-employment against posts of teachers/dean/principal/ director in medical colleges from 65-70 years.
(iv) relaxation in the norms of setting up of Medical College in terms of requirement for land, faculty, staff, bed/bed strength and other infrastructure.
(v) Strengthening/upgradation of State Government Medical Colleges for starting new PG courses/Increase of PG seats.

(vi) Establishment of New Medical Colleges by upgrading district/referral hospitals preferably in underserved districts of the country.
(vii) Strengthening/ upgradation of existing State Government/Central Government Medical Colleges to increase MBBS seats.
(b): At present there are 472 medical colleges in the country out of which 212 are in the Government sector including six new AIIMS and remaining 260 are in private sector, out of which 5 are not functioning. The admission capacity of these 472 medical colleges is 65,138 students per year. 308 Dental Colleges are also functioning with the intake capacity of 26,690 BDS seats.
(c) & (d): As per the Medical Council of India's Establishment of Medical College Regulations, 1999, the following organizations shall be eligible to apply for permission to set up new medical colleges:-
i) A University and State Governments/Union territories;
ii) An autonomous body promoted by Central and State Government by or under a Statute for the purpose of medical education;
iii) A society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 (21 of 1860) or corresponding Acts in States; or
iv) A public religious or charitable trust registered under the Trust Act, 1882 (2 of 1882) or the WAKFS Act, 1954 (29 of 1954).
v) Companies registered under Company Act may also be allowed to open medical colleges. Permission shall be withdrawn if the colleges resort to commercialization.

(e): The ratio of teachers to students has been revised from 1:1 to 1:2 for all MD/MS disciplines and 1:1 to 1:3 in subjects of Anaesthesiology, Forensic Medicine, Radiotherapy, Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology and Psychiatry.